

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended in compliance with MPEP § 608.01 (b).

Claims 1-48 remain in this application. Claims 1, 20, and 34 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 11, 27, 28, 30, 36, 40, and 41 have been canceled.

§ 102 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 14, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,962,992 (Chapin et al).

Chapin clearly does not disclose a coating composition as defined by newly amended claim 1, i.e. having a block copolymer comprising at least one hard block and at least one soft block and at least one reactive monomer comprising a multi-functional acrylate, wherein said hard block has a T_g greater than the T_g of the soft block;

said block copolymer comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane, styrene butadiene, EPDM, ethylene propylene rubber, synthetic styrene butadiene rubber, styrenic block copolymers, or combinations thereof; and

said elastomeric soft block comprises a poly(butadiene), hydrogenated polybutadiene, polyisoprene, polyethylene/butylene, polyethylene/propylene, diol block or combinations thereof.

§ 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 4-13, 15, 17-19, and 20-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 4,962,992 (Chapin).

Applicants submit that there is no mention or suggestion in Chapin of formulating a coating as defined by claim 1, namely, i.e. a block copolymer comprising at least one hard block and at least one soft block and at least one reactive monomer comprising a multi-functional acrylate, wherein said hard block has a T_g greater than the T_g of the soft block;

said block copolymer comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane, styrene butadiene, EPDM, ethylene propylene rubber, synthetic styrene butadiene rubber, styrenic block copolymers, or combinations thereof; and

said elastomeric soft block comprises a poly(butadiene), hydrogenated polybutadiene, polyisoprene, polyethylene/butylene, polyethylene/propylene, diol block or combinations thereof.

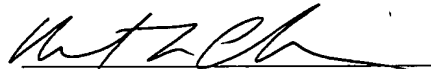
Independent claims 20 and 34 likewise contain the limitations in claim 1 discussed above. Because all of the other claims depend either directly or indirectly from one of claims 1, 20, or 34, it is submitted that these claims are also in condition for allowance.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Robert L. Carlson at 607-974-3502.

Respectfully submitted,



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